

Application No. 10/730,894
Amendment dated January 30, 2006
Reply to Office Action of September 29, 2005

Docket No.: 22106-00050-US

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings includes changes to FIG 3, which has been amended to change reference numeral 22 (instance at the bottom of the figure) to 32, according to the Examiner's direction.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

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REMARKS

Claims 3-6 and 8-13 are pending. Claims 1, 2 and 7 are canceled. Claims 3-6 and 8-11 are amended. Claims 12 and 13 are new.

Claim Amendments

New claim 12 is supported by the description with respect to FIGS. 1-3 and original claims 1 and 2. New claim 13 is supported by the description with respect to FIGS. 4-6 and original claims 1 and 7. Claims 3-6 and 8-11 are amended to improve readability and to depend from either claim 12 or 13, in view of the cancellation of claims 1, 2 and 7. No new matter has been added.

Drawing Corrections

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings based on improper reference numeral 22 at the bottom of FIG. 3. FIG. 3 has been amended to change this reference numeral to 32, as required by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The following is a summary of the §102 rejections asserted by the Examiner:

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Long et al. (US 5,718,358).

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Koons (US 5,941,129).

Claims 1 and 6-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kollegen (DE 200 08 718).

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Claims 1 and 5-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hunt (US 5044535).

Claims 1, 6, 10 and 11 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Chang (US 5,456,391).

Claims 1-6 stand rejected 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Chen (GB 2,262,224).

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

As indicated above, claims 1, 2 and 7 are canceled. Thus, the rejection of these claims is moot.

New independent claims 12 and 13 have been added, and read as follows:

12. (New) An adjustable clothes hanger structure, comprising:

upper hanging means;

two symmetrical side arms extending from a center point of said structure;

cavities disposed inside of said side arms;

longitudinal apertures located in upper walls of said side arms;

sliding elements disposed within said cavities, said sliding elements comprising projections protruding upward through said longitudinal apertures, and

movable garment supports, wherein said movable garment supports are fixed to said projections so as to permit width adjustment of said movable garment supports.

13. (New) An adjustable clothes hanger structure, comprising:

upper hanging means;

two symmetrical side arms extending horizontally along a common axis from a center point of said structure;

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cavities disposed inside of said side arms;
longitudinal apertures located in lower walls of said side arms;
sliding elements disposed within said cavities; and
movable garment supports positioned below said side arms and connected to said
sliding elements through said longitudinal apertures so as to permit width adjustment of
said movable garment supports.

Each of the remaining claims depends from either claim 12 or claim 13.

As shown above, claim 12 recites: 1) longitudinal apertures in the upper walls of the side arms; and 2) movable garment supports fixed to projections of the sliding arms extending upward through the longitudinal apertures. None of the cited references teach or suggest these features. Thus, claim 12 and claims 3-6 and 11, which depend from claim 12, are allowable over the applied art.

Claim 13 recites: 1) longitudinal apertures in the lower walls of the side arms; and 2) movable garment supports positioned below said side arms and connected to the sliding elements through the longitudinal apertures. None of the cited references teach or suggest these claim elements. Thus, claim 13 and claims 8-10, which depend from claim 13, are allowable over the applied art.

For at least the above reasons, each of the presently pending claims is allowable over the art cited by the Examiner.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

If a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 22106-00050-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

By


Brian J. Hairston

Registration No.: 46,750

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

Correspondence Customer Number: 30678

Attorney for Applicant

Attachments